

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
June 27, 2017

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION:** President Hardaway asked for a moment of silence.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** All members were present.

**PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:**  
None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated June 27, 2017. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2017. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**BUDGET & FINANCE:**

Mr. Pettit had no report.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

Mr. Minchuk commented that the railroad crossing on Taft St is reopened.

**COUNCIL AFFAIRS:**

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

**PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:**

Mrs. Barron had no report.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Mrs. Uzelac thanked Bruce Spires for having roads over the culverts fixed in the vicinity of 73<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Taney Pl, and near Turkey Creek & Savannah Ridge. She commented that the residents appreciate it.

President Hardaway referenced a letter submitted from Superior Ambulance Service requesting to use the Fire Station located at 850 W 57<sup>th</sup> Ave to house their ambulances. Discussion followed. Mr. Pettit made a motion to accept the letter and enter into an agreement with Superior Ambulance Service which would include a condition that there would be quarterly inspection of the building done by the Fire Department. President Hardaway mentioned this also includes authorization of our attorney to negotiate a contract. Mr. Spires added that the monthly lease payments will go back to the Merrillville Fire Territory Board. These funds can be used for maintenance on that building and utilities as well as having a fund started in which money can be drawn out as needed for work on any of Fire Stations. Mr. Pettit accepted and added these conditions to the motion as discussed by President Hardaway and Mr. Spires. The motion including conditions was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**PARKS & RECREATION:**

Ms. LaMarca referred to Jan Orlich for a report. Ms. Orlich said the parade line up is complete, any last minute applications received will be added to the rear of the parade. The Town float has been confirmed as well as event advertising. Ms. Orlich provided an update for the projects at Southbrook and Jennings Park. Ms. Orlich thanked Public Works for their help and assistance with these projects.

Mr. Pettit reminded the Parks Department that Planning & Building has a listing of businesses that are approved for on premise digital signs. These businesses are required by ordinance to advertise & promote any of the Town's events. Mr. Pettit also mentioned that the Parks Department can submit artwork for display which would be provided by Lamar signs.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:**

Mrs. Barron said that Lake County Solid Waste continues to work with the communities providing a variety of recycling programs. Mrs. Barron shared lab result news and mentioned the second grant check will be sent out in August. A discussion took place regarding the topic of recycled/donated benches.

**ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:**

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

Mr. Pettit had no report.

**UTILITY LIAISON:**

Mr. Spann had no report.

**ABANDONED PROPERTIES:**

President Hardaway said in the near future, we will be accepting bids for the vacant lot on 55th Ave and all of the properties on Broadway as an effort the sell them without having to go through an auction.

**GENERAL ORDERS:**

**FIRST READING ORDINANCES:**

**Ord. 17-09:** An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, amending the municipal code to improve the safety for occupants and residents of child care and adult care facilities. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

Mrs. Barron made a motion to suspend the rules and allow for a second reading to take place. Mr. Spann seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion to suspend the rules for second reading was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

**Ord. 17-12:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana, providing that the Zoning Ordinance Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana be amended by changing the established R-2, Single Family Residential Zoning District to a C-1, Neighborhood Commercial Classification. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCES:**

**Ord. 17-08:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana amending Ordinance 09-03 for Charges of False Fire Calls. Mr. Spann made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

**Ord. 17-09:** An Ordinance of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, amending the municipal code to improve the safety for occupants and residents of child care and adult care facilities. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

**Ord. 17-10:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana appropriating additional monies within the Motor Vehicle Highway Fund for the year 2017 not included in the current budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** **Ord. 17-11:** An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana repealing Ordinance 84-21 concerning the establishment of a Municipal Cumulative Capital Development Fund and re-establishing the Municipal Cumulative Capital Development Fund to allow it to be used for all lawful purposes set forth in I.C. 36-9-15.5. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion or public comment. President Hardaway closed the Public Hearing. The motion carried by a 7-0 roll call vote.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Res. 17-15:** A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana authorizing the repayment of a temporary loan (as of 6-21-17). Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Res. 17-16:** A Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, approving Real and Personal Property Tax Abatement on property located within an Economic Revitalization area. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Pettit. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Res. 17-17:** A Declaratory Resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, designating and Economic Revitalization area. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**BZA ACTIONS:**

None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Mr. Minchuk inquired as to the status of the negotiations for the FOP contract. Mr. Spires provided an update and said that this is still an ongoing matter.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office at Town Hall.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, June 28, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Stormwater Management Board meeting, July 5, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

Plan Commission workshop meeting, July 5, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Police Commission meeting, July 7, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

Town Council meeting, July11, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mrs. Barron made a motion to adjourn was seconded by Ms. LaMarca.

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**Richard Hardaway, President**

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**Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer**